

# The Mount Airy News.

ESTABLISHED 1880

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20th, 1921

\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

## NATION-WIDE STRIKE ON RAILROADS IS ORDERED

### Half Million Employees Will Walk Out Oct. 30 And Many Others Later

Chicago, Oct. 15.—More than half a million American railroad men were today ordered to initiate a strike October 30, while other unions whose membership brings the total to about two millions, announced unofficially that they tonight are preparing to follow suit and make the walkout general, on the same date.

Under this program the tie-up would be complete, according to union predictions, by November 2.

The hour was fixed for 6 A. M., October 30, except for one Texas line, whose trainmen were authorized to go out October 22.

The railroads listed in the first group on which the strike is to become effective, touch 42 of the 48 states with a trackage of 73,000 miles out of the total United States trackage of approximately 200,000.

The New England states comprise the group that is virtually untouched in the first walkout.

The strike orders were issued to the big five brotherhoods, oldest and most powerful of the railway unions, and they specifically included mail trains in the walkout. Their provisions instructed strikers to keep away from railroad property with a warning that "violence of any nature will not be tolerated by the organizations."

The strike was announced following an overwhelming vote, said to be upwards of 90 per cent, favoring a strike because of a 12 per cent wage reduction authorized by the United States railroad labor board of July 1, and after it was declared by the association of railway executives in session here yesterday that a further reduction would be sought by the railroads. It was said that the strike decision was made before the announcement of this further intended cut. Printed instructions as to conduct of the strike, issued in Chicago, were dated yesterday, October 14.

"I fear it will be one of the most serious strikes in American transportation history," said W. G. Lee, president of the railroad trainmen, who during the recent weeks has sent circulars to his men warning them of the critical nature of the steps they contemplated.

The country was divided into four groups, in which the men were authorized to walk out progressively, one group every 24 hours. The names of the groups were not made public, but unofficially the identity of roads in the first group to go was learned, subject to changes, which union officials said would be few. This first group included some of the country's greatest rail systems, from coast to coast and from Canada to the Gulf.

## NEW YORK BEGINS PLANS FOR STRIKE

### 57,000 Motor Trucks to Be Mobilized to Bring City Its Daily Food

New York, Oct. 17.—A fleet of 57,000 motor trucks, or as many of them as are found necessary, will be mobilized in the event of a protracted general railroad strike to bring New York its daily supply of 1,500 carloads of foodstuffs, Health Commissioner Copeland announced today.

There are adequate supplies in storage, he said, to ration the city thru a rail tie-up of three weeks, but importation of milk by the trucks would have to begin at once.

The coal situation, he said, was somewhat less favorable, owing to the fact that coal companies have scant storage space in which to build up a reserve. Efforts are being made to induce large consumers to fill their bins at once so that dealers may stock up again for small consumers before the date set for the strike.

Paris' "Hundred Kilo Club," a club composed of men tipping the scales at 220 pounds, is coming to life again. During the war many members lost out when the food restrictions and hard work of military service lowered their weight. Since the armistice many have gone into "training" at the little cafe where the club convenes, eating fattening foods.

## WINSTON BANK ROBBED BY A BANDIT

### Forces Assistant Cashier to Open Bank Vault. Escapes With \$9,025

Winston-Salem, Oct. 18.—A tall masked man, with a pistol in each hand, entered the Southside branch of the Farmers' Bank and Trust company about 8 o'clock this morning and forced Assistant Cashier W. R. Snow, who had gone in the bank early to do some work on the books, into the vault and made him get down on the floor. The intruder then grabbed the money in sight, closed the door to the vault and took his departure. It was perhaps the boldest robbery ever committed in this section. Snow says that while he was being forced into the vault he heard a voice at the rear door, from which the masked man entered, call to his assistant, "Hurry up." The bank officials report that their loss is \$9,025 though it is covered by burglar insurance.

The police and sheriff were notified of the robbery as soon as Assistant Cashier Snow could get out of the vault. The robbers were tracked to the Southbound railroad and it is believed that they went down a deep embankment and followed the railroad tracks, at least for some distance. There was no evidence that they departed in any kind of conveyance.

In his story about the hold-up, Snow says that when the stranger faced him with two pistols, he lost no time in telling him to open the vault door. The assistant cashier played for time by failing to catch the combination in two attempts. "If you fail next time I will blow your brains out," the masked man said. This declaration added to the bank man's fright and he managed to find the combination. As soon as the door swung open, the visitor asked: "Where is your gold?" "We have none here," replied Snow, who picked up a sack of silver and handed it to the visitor, who dropped the bag and the silver scattered over the floor. Pointing to another sack, the robber asked: "What's in that?" Being told it was currency, he grabbed it and rushed out the door, pushing it shut as he departed.

Messages were sent to all of the nearby towns and cities requesting the officers to be on the lookout for suspicious looking persons. Up to tonight local officers have no clue regarding the guilty parties. Speculation was rife here today as to whether the robbers were professionals or local parties. Sentiment seemed to be divided.

Assistant Cashier Snow is not able to give a detailed description of the man who held him up as the masked man kept Snow in front and told him not to look back.

Persons in stores and garages near the bank knew nothing of the robbery until after the men had departed and Snow came out and gave the alarm.

## Electric Lights May Wink Correct Time

A dimming of electric lights each night at 8 o'clock as a national time signal is being urged as a measure that will distribute the correct time regularly to all who are within sight of an electric light.

In the same way that the time ball is dropped down the staff at noon and clocks are regulated by telegraphic or radio signals from the Naval Observatory in Washington, it is suggested that power plants regularly flash the correct time daily over their electrical system.

This idea is actually working in Uruguay, according to James H. Collins, who explains the idea in a jeweller's circular issued recently. In that country the lights are dimmed for about one second at 8 P. M.

"Electrical engineers say that the idea might be applied immediately in many small communities where the amount of electrical current will not call for great lowering of voltage to communicate the flash," declares Mr. Collins. "In the larger cities, where immense power loads are also carried on circuits that furnish lighting current the technical difficulties may be great."

A national electrical time signal would call attention to the inaccuracies of the clocks and watches in the average community, which vary five minutes at the least, it is declared.

Buried treasure, believed to be a part of the loot of Jean Lafitte, the pirate, has been found in the vicinity of Jefferson Island, the home of the late Joseph Jefferson. According to legend, large sums of money were buried in that neighborhood by Lafitte who operated in the eighteenth century.

## PLANS COMPLETED FOR BIG REUNION

### Chattanooga Leaving Nothing Undone to Prepare for Comfort of Veterans

Chattanooga, Tenn., Oct. 14.—The Confederate reunion committee has about completed all of its arrangements to entertain the veterans and their friends when they arrive here for their 31st annual meeting, October 25 to 27, inclusive. Cots and blankets have been secured to be used if the homes of Chattanooga prove inadequate to house all of the veterans.

These cots will be placed in steam-heated buildings for the most part to guard against a possible low temperature or a cold wave; but the weather records of Chattanooga show that good weather usually prevails in this territory the last of October and the first of November, so but little fear is entertained on that score. The forecast now is for clear, frosty mornings all three days of the reunion, but warm days for the time of year.

The reunion program has been completed and given to the printers. No material change has been made in the original draft which has been explained already in this correspondence. One feature of the program at least is far better than was at first anticipated, and this is music. The music committee, of which Mrs. John Lamar Meek is chairman, has succeeded in organizing a reunion choral class of 500 voices to supply the vocal music for the reunion occasion. This large class will be supplemented by the well known Confederate choir of Virginia. The reunion committee has definitely arranged for the Virginia choir to be at the reunion. No former reunion ever had such vocal music as will be heard in Chattanooga.

All necessary mounts have been secured for the various parades from the army post at Fort Oglethorpe, and all of the horses are well trained for parade occasions. Each of the various parades will be among the best seen at former reunions, and will prove a delightful feature of the event.

The reunion committee expects a large crowd at the reunion. There is intense interest in the meeting all over the South and instanced by the large demand for identification certificates from the many commanders, adjutants and all other classes of people authorized to enjoy the low rate of one cent a mile. But few people believe that the reunion attendance will be under 50,000 to 60,000. Chattanooga is prepared to accommodate an attendance of that size.

## AUTO OWNERS MAY LOOK OUT

### State Man to Round Up The License Tags Delinquents

The failure of repeated warnings to bring response from automobilists who have failed to procure new State license tags may cause Secretary of State J. Bryan Grimes to send a man into various sections of the State to run down these cars.

Colonel Grimes expresses the opinion that the shortage of 15,000 applications for license tags, as compared with the number issued last year, is not because automobiles have been put to rest in the garage or storage building, but because of a half-dozen schemes which many are using to "beat the law."

For years past there has been a substantial annual increase in the number of automobile license tags issued. The State expected this to continue and was prepared for an increase. Instead of the increase, however, came the shortage of 15,000 applications. Numerous reports from cities and towns over the State have given information concerning methods of using old tags or driving without any plates at all and thereby saving the motorist from paying the \$10, \$12.50 or higher tax for the operation of his machine.—Danbury Reporter.

## County Teachers Association.

A very profitable and enthusiastic meeting of the Surry County Teachers association was held in Dobson, the county seat of Surry, last Saturday, Oct. 15th, one hundred two members being present.

The main purpose of the meeting was to plan for the State Assembly in Raleigh, Thanksgiving. This association is working for 100 per cent membership for the State Assembly and the prospects are bright for achieving their aim.

Dinner was served by the hotel at the expense of the County Board of Education. L. M. Epps, president, Miss Beas Merritt coety.

## CONFEDERATE VETS TO BE PAID DECEMBER 15

### Pension Money From State Larger This Year; \$1,000,000 to be Paid Out

Raleigh, Oct. 17.—The first payment of pension money to Confederate veterans and widows of veterans, with the increase authorized by the last legislature, will be made December 15, and State Auditor Baxter Durham has figured each pensioner will receive approximately 40 per cent more money than the last payment.

Pensioners of the first class, who have been receiving \$110 annually, will get \$150 for the next year. The increase to second class pensioners is from \$100 to \$135; third class \$80 to \$120, and fourth class \$70 to \$100. The total amount to be paid out in pensions for the next year will be \$1,000,000 as against \$665,000 for this year. Pension money is paid semi-annually in advance. The payment to be made in December will cover the first six months of 1922, and in June pension money for the last six months will be sent out.

The number of Confederate veterans and widows of veterans to share in the pension fund now is 10,137, and the million dollars has been proportionately divided among these by Auditor Durham. Of the total number of pensioners, 4,988 are widows, virtually all of these coming in the fourth class.

Pensioners of the first class are those wholly incompetent as the result of wounds, and blind widows. Those of the second class must have lost during the civil war a leg above the knee or an arm above the elbow. Veterans who have lost a leg below the knee or an arm rendered useless by reasons of wounds are placed in the third class. Those who have lost an eye, and soldiers and widows unable to perform manual labor constitute the fourth class, which is the largest.

## SENATOR KNOX VICTIM OF PARALYSIS

### Had Purchased Tickets for Theater Shortly Before Stricken. Dead in 15 Minutes.

Washington, Oct. 12.—Philander Chase Knox, senator from Pennsylvania and secretary of state under President Taft, died suddenly at 6:30 o'clock this evening at his home here. He was stricken with paralysis after descending the stairway on his way to the dining room for dinner and passed away 15 minutes later without regaining consciousness.

Mrs. Knox and the senator's secretary, W. F. Martin, were near the senator and hurried to his aid. Dr. Samuel Adams was summoned immediately, but he found Mr. Knox beyond medical aid.

Senator Knox returned to Washington only last Monday night from a trip to Europe with Mrs. Knox and he attended the sessions of the senate yesterday and today. Leaving the chamber about 5 o'clock this afternoon, the senator took an automobile ride through Potomac park and stopped on his way home to purchase tickets for a theater performance to-night. Reaching home, the senator went to his library where he remained until summoned to dinner.

President Harding, Chief Justice Taft, Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts the Republican leader, Senator Penrose, of Pennsylvania, and other friends and close associates of Mr. Knox were soon notified of the senator's death. The news came as a shock to all official Washington, for the senator, through his services first as attorney general under Presidents McKinley and Roosevelt, and later as secretary of state under President Taft, had a wide circle of friends in all walks of public life, congressional diplomatic and legal.

Senator Knox was 68 years old and was serving in the senate for the second time, having first been appointed in 1904 to succeed the late Senator Matthew Stanley Quay. He was elected to succeed himself in 1905, but resigned four years later to become secretary of state.

A mountain disintegrating so fast that the action is discernible day by day is a remarkable phenomenon of the Aussee region of Austria. Great cones and pinnacles of rock crash and tumble and forests lie flat or move slowly and steadily downward, piling into the valleys. It is believed that water in the chalky limestone core of the mountain causes the collapse of caverns and the slipping of strata.

## FEWER LAWYERS MORE FARMERS BAILEY'S ADVICE

### Declares If State Will Keep Lawyers Out of Legislature Expenses Be Less

Raleigh, Oct. 10.—Fill the North Carolina general assembly with farmers and thereby give representation to this great group of Tar Heels who have for so, these many years, been discriminated against in the legislative branch of the state government. This is the advice Josiah W. Bailey, United States collector of internal revenue is going to give North Carolinians whenever and wherever, always and everywhere the opportunity presents itself between now and the next election time rolls around.

North Carolina is made up largely of farmers, he argues, and common decency, if for no other reason, demands that the state's greatest producers be properly represented in the legislative branch. There is no gain-saying in any quarter that in the present legislature these producers are not on an equal footing with other professions. A glance at the list of representatives which sat together in the 1921 session will convince anyone that the lawyers were in the majority. These lawyers will be back here again in December when the special session meets.

Mr. Bailey thinks that the state will be saved from disaster which revaluationists, lawyers, city folks and politicians have started the commonwealth toward. The farmers are conservative men and Mr. Bailey suggests that as lawmakers they will not spend the state's money as freely as others since the farmers have never been in the habit of "wasting" their own money, because they have not had it to waste.

With the state's taxation system to be salvaged from the wreck of revaluation, a farmer-legislature, to Mr. Bailey's mind, will do a much better job than any other. So he is going to urge that lawyers be replaced with farmers whenever and wherever the golden opportunity presents itself.

## Strike Would Cripple The Packing Industry

Chicago, Oct. 16.—A railroad strike would have little effect on the average large industry of the middle west but would result in closing down all of the packing plants within three weeks and undoubtedly would force many small factories to close, representatives of some of the chief industries of this region said tonight.

Tentative plans were being drawn up through which it was said Chicago and the larger cities could be kept supplied with most food commodities, although it was believed that meat supplies would run short quickly, the packers asserting that their stocks on hand are smaller than in many years.

An official of one packing concern said that the meat packers had been operating at only 35 per cent normal strength for more than a year and that as they were entirely dependent on the transportation systems, they could not operate during an effective railroad strike. Approximately 75,000 men would be thrown out of work through closing of the big five packing plants, officials said, although in normal times the number would have been much larger.

George R. Meyer, president of the Illinois Manufacturer's association, said reports he had received indicated that the larger industries would have no trouble in operating in spite of a railroad strike.

"There would be no general tie-up of industry."

## Stokes Man Has Pocket Picked

Winston-Salem, Oct. 13.—T. A. Bennett, a farmer from Stokes county, reported to the police department yesterday afternoon that his pocket was picked while he was trading in Gilmer's store yesterday afternoon and the sum of eighty eight dollars in cash was taken.

Mr. Bennett stated to the police that a colored girl was standing near him just before his money was missed and he is of the opinion that two colored girls committed the robbery of which they were suspected. He gave a very accurate description of the parties he suspected, but no trace of the guilty parties had been found last night.

This is the second robbery to take place in a store within the past few days and in both instances the pocket-picking was attributed to two colored girls. The police are on the alert for the offenders and it thought that they will be apprehended soon.

## ONLY REPUBLICANS In THE POST OFFICE

### Democrats Allege That Old Merit System is Being Abandoned Under Ruling Permitting Choice From Eligibles

Washington, D. C., Oct. 3.—Protests over an alleged return to a system of political pressure in the matter of post office appointments are being heard in the Democratic ranks and furnishing ammunition in the attacks recently launched by them against the Administration. The spirit of competitive examinations, it is declared, is being violated in the recently adopted method of appointing Republican postmasters from among the "three highest eligibles" on the old civil service lists, rather than from the new lists.

This policy, adopted some months ago at the order of Will H. Hays, Postmaster-General, after conference with the President, is declared to be in the interest of efficiency and the saving of time by the crowded Civil Service Commission. It results, according to Democratic charges, in the appointing of Republicans from old eligible lists, to posts which rightly belong to those standing highest on the new lists, whether Democrat or Republican. This is the policy of portioning out post office appointments as "political plums" it is asserted, against which so much criticism was formerly leveled.

The putting of such positions under civil service is merely a blind, according to Democratic critics of the Administration, as long as the final appointment from the three highest names on the list rests with Administration officials and depends on party affiliations.

A protest against the alleged abuses of this system has been filed with the Senate Committee on Post Offices by Furnifold M. Simmons (D.), Senator from North Carolina, in the form of a demand for an investigation of a case in North Carolina, in which, it is alleged, partisan politics resulted in unfairness in appointing a postmaster. This is only one of thousands of such cases, according to Senator Simmons, who hopes investigation of this case will result in a return to appointments on a basis purely of merit.

## Diphtheria

The diphtheria "bugs" continue to be more active in North Carolina. They have caused more children to be sick in September of this year than September of 1920. If there is the usual increase in number of cases during October, there will be about 1500 cases of this disease scattered over the State.

The reason there are so many cases of this disease is because the children who are not protected by nature have not taken toxin-antitoxin, which enables one to resist diphtheria as the typhoid treatment protects them against typhoid fever.

I wish to remind those who have taken the toxin-antitoxin treatment that it takes six to eight weeks for the treatment to produce enough antitoxin in one's blood to enable him to resist the disease. The protection, however, lasts in about 90 per cent of the cases for several years, possibly for life.

The North Carolina State Board of Health will send enough toxin-antitoxin to your doctor to protect your child for ten cents. However, each person must pay the physician for his professional services. You should not deny yourself of the opportunity to keep your baby out of the grave.

The Health Department will give the toxin-antitoxin free to any child in the county.

L. L. Williams, Health Officer.

## Birthday Celebration

Last Sunday a large crowd of relatives, friends and neighbors gathered at the home of A. S. Cockerham near Kappa Mill, for the purpose of celebrating his sixty-second birthday, which was a complete surprise to him. His oldest brother, J. K. Cockerham's, birthday is also on the same day and he was present. He is seventy-six. He is one among the few Confederate soldiers that now survive. Baskets of good eats had been prepared and a long table in the yard was literally loaded with the very best the season and country could afford. Uncle Joe Cockerham implored divine blessing on the dinner. After which everybody proceeded to satisfy the wants of the inner man. After feeding the crowd many fragments were left over, the tables were cleared and the afternoon was spent in social intercourse between friends and neighbors. One present.